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The Canadian INDIA TIMES

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Established in 1967

Disaster Hits Coal Mine

New Delhi, Dec. 30. It may take 10 days to drain the flooded coal mine in Bihar where a few hundred miners are trapped and feared dead. High capacity pumps from the U.S. are being rushed to the disaster area in order to try to save any survivors.

Prime Minister Indira Gandhi said "everything humanly possible is being and will be done to rescue the workers" trapped by an explosion and subsequent flooding in the Chasnala colliery, 160 miles northwest of Calcutta. Mines Minister C.Yadav said it will take 500 rescue workers and five pumps 10 days to remove the 110 million gallons of water he estimated were in the flooded shaft.

It would be a miracle if any of the men survived.

High-powered pumps sucked water from the mine while the grief-stricken wives of the trapped men are loosing their hope.

The attendance register at the government-run mine indicated that 372 miners were in the shaft at the time of the explosion. But officials of the mine workers' union said men from the previous shift may still have been below, and that as many as 700 workers might be missing.

Officials said the 1,250 feet deep shaft was filled with water to within 150 feet of the surface, and most of the miners would have been working in the lower levels. But Mr. Yadav said some might have been saved by air pockets.

Unofficial reports said the explosion was due to accumulated gas and that it caused the mine's walls to buckle, opening a passage for water from an abandoned shaft.

The worst previous mine disaster in India occured 10 years ago when 265 miners died in a cavein.

The Indian Iron and Steel Co., which operates the mine, said it will pay the family of each victim two months' pay, the equivalent of about $120.

No Nation Can Influence India's Thinking

New Delhi, (UNI): The Indian Prime Minister, Mrs. Indira Gandhi has declared that no nation would be permitted to influence our national thinking or way of life.

Addressing a large public gathering here that had assembled to congratulate her, Mrs. Gandhi said that "we want friendship with all nations."

Mrs. Gandhi said that we want to get support from the international community but added that the future of the country depended mainly on its own resources and will power.

She said that the foreign aid to our country was very small.

Brain Drain A Hoax

Bombay (UNI): A noted educationist says that all this talk about brain drain is a clever hoax so experts at home can get more perks.

The Indian authorities have often exprssed concern over the growing trend of scientists and doctors leaving India for better opportunities abroad.

But V. V. John, former Vice-Chancellor of Jodhpur University, says the lament over brain drain is just a device for creating a scarcity psychosis in regard to the brain power and expertise, so that the experts who are already in good positions might receive higher emoluments.

Delivering a lecture on "Education and India's Poverty" here Mr. John said, "I have known scientists and technologists in position of power, who would not lift a finger to get our bright boys back from abroad"

He said "the lament, however, continues and is a performance for the benefit of the laity".

Bajpai Appointed To Cairo

Uma Shankar Bajpai, High Commissioner of India to Canada, has been appointed Ambassador of India to the Arab Republic of Egypt in succession to the late Ashok Balkrishan Bhadkamkar. He is expected to take up his assignment shortly.

Elections To Be Postponed

New Delhi, Dec. 29 The Congress party decided today that general elections, due next March, will be delayed for at least one year.

The party's national conference, which opened in a village near Chandigarh, said it will extend the life of the Lok Sabha for a year.

The resolution requires formal approval by Parliament.

Elections are due in early 1977 for the legislative assemblies in most of India's 22 states.

D. K. Barooah, 61, was re-elected unopposed as Congress party president. He was nominated by Indira Gandhi.

Abortion Rules Relaxed

New Delhi, Dec. 27 (UNI): The Indian Government has revised abortion rules, minimising the paperwork by investing the power of approval in the chief medical officer of the district.

Announcing this the government said the new rules were framed taking into account the rising demand for more abortion care services in the country.

It said the revision also removed the delays associated with processing of applications for approval of places or certification of doctors.

The Government, however, made it clear that the original grounds under which a legal abortion can be obtained as laid down under the medical termination of pregnancy Act of 1971, remain valid under the new rules.

Das Gupta Haryana C.M.

Chandigarh, (UNI): Banarsi Das Gupta was sworn in Chief Minister of Haryana following the induction of his predecessor Bansi Lal in the Union Cabinet as Minister without Portfolio.

Congress (o) In Tamil Nadu Suspended

New Delhi, Dec. 21 (UNI): The All India Congress Committee (Organization) November 30 suspended its Tamil Nadu State unit and appointed in its place an ad-hoc committee with P. Ramachandra as President.

According to a party press release, six secretaries have also been appointed. They are: Kumari Anandan, Mr. Dhandayudhapani, S. V. Lakshmanan, Mrs. Lakshmi Krishnamurti, T. P. Elumalai and P. Ponnauswami.

The AICC (O) has also given powers to Mr. Ramachandran to reconstitute the Working Committee from time to time and suspend any subordinate committee for preserving unity and integrity of the organization.

Party General Secretary Mrs. Mohinder Kaur, who conveyed this decision of party President Asoka Mehta, drew he attention of the Tamil Nadu unit to the Working Committee resolution last year which strongly opposed any understanding with the Congress.

Multiculturalism Grants

Ottawa, Dec. 12: The Minister responsible for Multiculturalism, the Honorable John Munro, today announced 26 grants, totalling $95,079 under the federal government's multiculturalism program.

AMONG THEM ARE:

Council of Women of India - Toronto

$2,500 for the "Bhartiya Nari" project portraying women of India as they appear in traditional Indian arts and literature, as well as contemporary Indian women in a variety of fields both in India and Toronto.

Hindu Society of Alberta - Edmonton

$3,600 for the "Multicultural Festival" including multicultural performances representative of Scotland, China, Italy and India; an exhibition of arts, crafts, stamps, books, jewelry and musical instruments from many countries; slides and films; an international food bazaar; and a dance drama of the goddess of wealth.

Canadian Parliamentarians Impressed

Bharat P. Mathur

Ottawa, Members of the Canadian delegation to the Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference recently concluded in New Delhi returned to Ottawa highly impressed by Mrs. Indira Gandhi's bold and firm leadership and direction.

Maurice Dupras, the ruling Liberal Party leader of the delegation, told me in an interview that from what he saw in India he was inclined to agree with Mrs. Gandhi that the Western Press had over-reacted to the developments in India following the proclamation of emergency.

In this context, he emphasised that it was the function of democracy to protect the majority, and he was convinced that the restrictive measures Mrs. Gandhi took became necessary under the prevailing conditions of threatened anarchy and chaos. They were to the advantage of the majority, in the interest of the country's security and, above all, for the good of the people.

Mr. Dupras was greatly appreciative of the economic program launched by Mrs. Gandhi since the proclamation of emergency. This program, he added, had been received with spontaneous response from the people.

He concluded by saying that they had some very fruitful and interesting experience during their short stay in India, and spoke of the extremely well-organized arrangements made for the conference.

Bob Wenman, a Conservative Party member of the delegation, said that much to his surprise and amazement he found the standard of living in India much better than he had ever imagined. He was particularly impressed by the people's pride in their cultural heritage, the attitude of discipline that had developed and the new hope that had generated among them to resolve their internal problems, the traditional hospitality extended to them wherever they went and the absolute freedom of movement they were afforded. He praised India as a progressive nation destined to become a great Power one day. He said he saw more smiles in Shillong than he had ever seen in the Sparks Street of Ottawa.

Max Saltzman of the New Democratic Party said that he got the impression from his conversations with people from all walks of life he had opportunities of meeting that there had been noticeable all-round improvement in the general situation in the country ever since the emergency clampdown.

Data Bank On Specialists

New Delhi, (UNI): The Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) has begun work on a data bank of scientists and technologists and also those who are working abroad but wish to return home. It will facilitate getting the right men for the right jobs in the right time, official sources said here.

Political Tension In Gujarat

India Times News Service

Ahmedabad: A war of nerves is already on between the ruling Janata Front and the Congress in Gujarat. This is apart from the differences between the different partners of the ruling Janata.

An indication of the same is available in the fact that the Govt. is not convening the Assembly session earlier that February, the budget session. But before that a trial of strength would be witnessed in the elections to the 4 municipal corporations and taluq and district panchayats due in November and December.

The present political confrontation took a decisive turn when Mr. Hatimtra Desai, former Chief Minister of Gujarat, joined Congress sometime back. His recent meeting with Mrs. Indira Gandhi in New Delhi is considered politically significant by the political observers.

On the other hand the political strife within the Janata Front is adding to the political tension in the state. After the death of Mr. Kamraj, the doyen of Congress (O), a strong undercurrent is blowing for the merger of Congress (O) and Congress. Further, the Jan Sangh, is silently pressurising the Congress (O) to yield to it a lion's share in everything in the state. The latest example of this is seen in the allocation of seats by the Front in the ensuing elections to the Rajkot muncipal corporation. The Jan Sangh has managed to get 27 seats out of 51, for those who would be contesting under the Janata Front banner. If we add to it those who would be contesting independently under the Jan Sangh symbol, this number risos to 40. This virtually amounts to reducing the Congress (O) to a minority. Naturally, there is a strong resentment against this.

Lastly Kisan Mazdoor Lok Paksha (KMLP), the main supporter of Janata Front is on the verge of splitting. A battle of leadership is on between its leader of Parliamentary wing Vallabhai Patel. The latter is a strong supporter of the Janata Front for which there are obvious reasons. He was earlier tipped for ministership, but knew he is being tipped for the Chairmanship of the State Agriculture Commission, with the status of a Minister.

The point of tension between Chimanbhai Patel and Vallabhai Patel and his supporters has reached such proportions that the KMLP M.L.A.'s don't listen to them. Under the circumstances Chimanbhai Patel is inclined to disband the party. This has been opposed by Vallabhai Patel at a public meeting in Rajkot. He is reported to have said that

"Chimanbhai Patel was being described as the founder of KMLP, but it was not so. Farmers in Saurashtra were the founders of the party and Chimanbhai has no right to disband the party".

Keeping these circumstances in view the political tensions would be at its highest during the next two months. Its repercussions are bound to have far reaching impact on the future of the Janata Front.

Posts For Women Unfilled

Calcutta, Dec. 24 (UNI): Over 3,760 vacancies notified exclusively for women candidates in different establishments, have been cancelled due to non availability of "suitable" candidates last year in spite of the steady rise in job-seekers among the fair sex, according to a survey by the country's employment exchanges.

A total of 31,808 vacancies for women had been notified through the network of the country's 585 employment exchanges and University Employment Information Guidance Bureau, but only 28,044 could be filled, the survey said.

It observed that various factors including lack of mobility, socio-economic difficulties, absence of housing facilities, physical, technical and socio-cultural pattern of the families created obstacles in their taking up of jobs.

Microwave Link With Sri Lanka

Madras, Dec. 24 (UNI): India will provide a microwave link between Sri Lanka and the country at a cost of Rs 93 million, according to Union Communications Minister Shankar Dayal Sharma.

He told newsmen here that under the project, to be completed in two years, microwave stations would be installed in Madurai, Ramanathapuram, Rameswaram in Tamil Nadu and Jaffna in Sri Lanka. The Government was also taking steps to improve the communication links with neighbouring countries like Bangladesh and Pakistan, he adde

Woes Of Women Doctors

Madras, Dec. 27 (UNI): Divorce, pressure crisis, constant tension, and delinquent children — these are the woes of women doctors in the present social set-up.

The social life of married women doctors was apalysed at length in a paper presented by Dr. Mrs. B. M. Sharma to the conference of women doctors here.

Mrs. Sharma says the basic problem is the duality of loyalty of a married woman doctor: one to her profession and the other to her home. It is a pity that women doctors are weighed down with responsibility of their household rather than devoting their time to sharpening their professional skills and updating their knowledge.

"The jealousies of the husband, the depression and the pressures caused by the family, all these make out the married woman doctor a submissive much dominated and a humiliated professional person. The situation leads to pressure crisis and estrangement", says Mrs. Sharma.

In most cases, the children become victims. "Lack of personal affection, attention, responsibility and negligence creates the problem of delinquency leading to drug addiction, alcoholism and juvenile crime among the children", Mrs. Sharma says.

Public Sector Does Well

New Delhi, Dec. 24 (UNI): The annual sales income of the Central public sector enterprises is estimated to hit a new high of Rs 80,000 million (7,333.33 million dollars) during 1974-75 and the net profit before taxation Rs 3,000 million (400 million dollars). The respective figures for 1973-74 were Rs 68,100 million.

The Bureau of Public Enterprises thinks if the present trend of production continues, the sales income of these concerns is expected to go beyond Rs 100,000 million (13,333.33 million dollars) in the current year's Central budget.

S. B. Chavan, Maharashtra Chief Minister participated in the tricentenary celebrations of Guru Tegh Bahadur when he announced that the Sion-Koliwada area of Bombay will be renamed Guru Tegh Bahadur Nagar owing to its being a predominantly Sikh-populated locality.

B. George Verghese, until recently Editor of the Hindustan Times, New Delhi, won the 1975 Ramon Magasaysay Award for journalism, literature and creative communication arts in recognition of his "superior developmental reporting of Indian Society, balancing factual accounts of achievements, shortcomings and carefully researched alternatives".

Janata Front Wins

Ahmedabad (UNI): The ruling Janata Front in Gujarat captured the Surat Municipal Corporation securing 42 of the 65 seats. The Congress which was the main rival won the remaining 23 seats.

The five-month-old Front is already in control of the 51-member Rajkot Municipal Corporation, commanding 39 seats.

State Chief Minister Babubhai Patel described the Surat victory as "a vote of confidence" to his Ministry.

Sheikh's Plea Rejected

Srinagar (UNI): Jammu and Kashmir Pradesh Congress Committee President Mufti Mohammed Syed has rejected Chief Minister Sheikh Abdullah's demand for holding a mid-term poll in the State.

Addressing a public meeting here, Mr. Syed said his party was opposed to holding of elections before the scheduled date in 1977. He demanded the setting up of a high-power commission to probe the corruption charges against all public men in the State.

No Pension In Sterling

New Delhi, Dec. 14 (UNI): The Supreme Court set aside a judgement of the Madras high court and held that a retired member of the Indian Civil Service was entitled to claim pension in pound sterling or that he should get his pension outside India, if expressed in pound sterling, should be computed at the rate of exchange exceeding Rs 13-1/3 per pound sterling.

In March 1972, allowing a writ petition of a retired ICS officer, P. M. Jayarajan, the High Court had ruled that the officer was entitled to his pension computed at the rate provided by Article 934 of the Civil Services Regulatins.

Coal Heads Energy Poliey

INDIA TIMES NEWS SERVICE

With the discovery of a Bombay High in Coal in the Plains of Singrauli spanning Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh, Coal has shot up to the top of India's energy services.

Official estimates put 23,099 m. tonnes in the Western and Northern fields, 79,800 m. tonnes in the eastern, 5,515 m. tonnes in the southern and 690 m. in the north-eastern.

However, the Geological Survey of India discovered 102.43 m. tonnes of new reserves in one field season from October '73 to June '74, and more are on the way.

Broach Poll

Ahmedabad, Dec. 14 (UNI): The Janata Samiti, a group of independents and others, has wrested control of the Broach Municipal Council in Gujarat from the Congress, capturing 18 out of the 35 seats.

The Congress, which had controlled the municipality for more than 15 years before its supersession, won 16 seats. One seat went to a non-aligned independent.

The five-party ruling Janata Front, which has captured the Rajkot, Surat and Baroda Municipal Corporations by over two-thirds majority, did not contest the Broach Municipality elections.

Foreign Exchange From Tourism

New Delhi, Dec. 24 (UNI): India has earned Rs. 2,639 million worth foreign exchange from tourism during the last five years, according to the "Tourist Statistics 1974" issued by the Department of Tourism, Government of India.

No Newsprint Import

New Delhi, (UNI): The Union Government has decided to suspend newsprint import until further orders.

This decision has been taken in view of the availability of large stocks of newsprint and the need to conserve forcign exchange, according to an official press note.

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Birth Rate Shows Some Decline

INDIA TIMES NEWS SERVICE

A subtle social change has taken place in India without any one taking notice of it. Abortion is losing the social stigma attached to it and is becoming socially acceptable.

The three years following the passing of the Medical Termination of Pregnancies Act in April, 1972, have witnessed more than two lakhs of women, from all religions and income groups, getting rid of their pregnancies.

But this figure fails to impress when viewed against the 39 lakhs illegal abortions taking place annually, as reported by the Shah Committee in 1966.

The birth rate of stood at 41.7 percent per 1,000 in 1960-61, at 39 per 1,000 in 1968-69 and fell to 35.4 per 1,000 in 1973-74. This is not an impressive record as the targets envisaged were 32 per 1,000 in the 4th plan, 25 per 1,000 in the 5th plan (which was later changed to 30), and 25 per 1,000 at the end of the 6th plan.

The failure to achieve these targets truly acquires significance when viewed against the backdrop of the population projections. The futurists predict India to have a staggering figure of population estimated at 642 millions in 1978-79 and at 700 million in 1985-86 as per official estimates. According to United Nation's estimates it would touch the figure of 1,000 million by 2,000 A.D.

As things are the haunting spectre of over population is already stalking the land, casting its shadow on the country, manifesting itself through famines, death due to starvation and ecological imbalances.

It is against this that the Govt. is making an all concerted effort to popularise induced abortions, whatever the self-styled "moralists" may say.

At an investiture ceremony held at Rashtrapati Bhavan in New Delhi, the President, Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed, administering the Oath of office of Union Minister of Transport and Shipping to G. S. Dhillon, until recently Speaker of the Lok Sabha.

Technical Know-How For 30 Countries

New Delhi, (UNI): India has emerged as a leading country in the developing world in providing technical knowhow to countries in Asia and Latin America.

India is now cooperating with at least 30 countries in supplying technical and scientific information as well as preparation of techno- economic surveys, feasibility reports and detailed project reports.

By the end of 1974, 339 Indian technical experts were functioning abroad under the Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation Program launched in 1964. Under the Program 146 foreigners were trained in India last year.

In the field of small scale industries, India has cooperated with Afghanistan, Kenya, Tanzania and Laos in establishing industrial estates.

Feasibility and techno-economic surveys have been prepared for Mauritius, Malaysia, Yemen, Iraq, Iran and Trinidad and Tobago. Industrial project reports have been prepared for Libya, Oman and Dubai. Besides it has cooperated with Afghanistan in setting up a children's hospital as well as an agricultural extension scheme.

Record Wheat Crop Expected

New Delhi (UNI): The unique combination of very favourable factors for the current rabi (winter) sowing holds out a promise of raising India's wheat output to an alltime record of 30 million tonnes, according to Dr. H.K. Jain, Head of the Genetics Division of the Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI) here.

Dr. Jain told UNI that he identified these factors as the plentiful rainfall, extended up to the middle of October, freer availability of fertilisers, more new varieties of high-yielding wheat seeds suited to different areas and better power position and availability of irrigation waters.

Canadian Wheat For India

New Delhi, Dec. 27 (UNI) Canada will supply India wheat worth 45.2 million Canadian dollars (about Rs 378 million) under that country's international food aid program.

The Canadian Government's decision to supply wheat has been conveyed by the Canadian High Commissioner in India, John R. Maybee, to the Department of Economic Affairs Secretary M. G. Kaul.

Oil Exploration In Libya

New Delhi, Dec. 28 (UNI): India is to explore for oil in Libya and if necessary in collaboration with a third country.

This has been agreed to in principle between Petroleum and Chemicals Minister K. D. Malaviya and Libyan Oil Minister Sayed Ezzeddin Al-Mabrouk during Mr. Malaviyas recent visit to Tripoli. Mr. Malaviya returned here after his visit to Geneva and Tripoli.

Unaccounted Wealth Of Rs. 4 Million Seized

Bombay, Dec. 26 (UNI): In the biggest ever "catch" involving a senior official of a public limited company, the income-tax authorities have seized unaccounted wealth worth over Rs 4 million.

The authorities raided the residence of the sales manager of the company December 10 and recovered promisory notes of Rs 1.7 million, gold bangles weighing 10 kg, jewellery worth more than Rs 200,000 and cash amounting to over Rs 300,000.

The seizure included the manager's bank deposit worth over Rs 100.00 and fixed deposit of over Rs 85,00.

The manager, who had never paid wealth tax, earned huge commissions from the sales of products, official sources said.

Employment Tax In Kerala

Trivandrum (UNI): The Kerala Government has promulgated an ordinance providing for imposing a tax on employment, the net proceeds of which will be utilised for creating a housing fund for the construction of houses for the landless poor.

The Kerala Tax on Employment Ordinance, notified as a gazette extraordinary, said the tax would be levied on a half-yearly basis on those with an annual income of Rs 2,400.

Annamalai V.C. Appointed

Dr. S. Chandrasekhar, demographer and family planning specialist, and till recently Professor of Demography and Public Health in the School of Public Health, University of California, Los Angeles, has been appointed Vice-Chancellor of the Annamalai University, Annamalai-Nagar, South India, from November 6, 1975. Arrangements have, however, been made for him to continue his professorship at the University of California on a part-time basis.

Merger Of News Agencies Soon

Lucknow, Dec. 20 (UNI): Union Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting V.C. Shukla said here the Government's "decision" to merge the news agencies into one national agency was "final" and it would be implemented "very soon".

Talking to newsmen after inaugurating the Lucknow television centre, he said the details of the merger plan were being worked out, keeping in view "the various aspects". However, Mr. Shukla declined to give any specific deadline for the implementation of the merger proposal.

Restructuring Of Press

New Delhi, Dec. 23 (UNI): The All India Newspaper Editors Conference (AINEC) has pleaded for an open discussion with newspaper editors on the Govt's reported decision to restructure the press.

A resolution adopted at a two-day meeting of the AINEC Standing Committee drew the Government's attention to the danger which all the categories of newspapers would face if a single news agency was formed.

Welcoming an opportunity for detailed discussions on the subject, the resolution requested the Minister for Information and Broadcasting to hear the views of the AINEC before finalising the proposals.

JP Put On Artificial Kidney

Bombay (UNI): Sarvodya leader Jayaprakash Narayan has been put on an artificial kidney for blood purification, according to Dr. Shantilal Mehta, Medical Director of the Jaslok Hospital here.

Dr. Mehta told newsmen that Mr. Narayan, who was released from detention on parole, is at present in the intensive care unit of the hospital since he was put on the artificial kidney.

Hospital authorities said kidney transplantation was not possible in the case of Mr. Narayan because of his old age.

Rs. 13 Million For Snake Skin

New Delhi (UNI): Exports of snake skin have fetched foreign exchange worth Rs 13 million during 1974-75.

India exports snake skin to Spain, France, West Germany, Italy and Switzerland.

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EDITOR: Mrs. T. J. Samuel

REPRESENTATIVES:

TORONTO: Manjula Parakal - 257-2148
Gangadhar Deshpande - 459-4688

VANCOUVER: Sabu Singh - 534-1574 (Res)
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DEMOCRACY AND THE PRESS

The news media play a very vital role in a democratic political set up. They inform the public of political decisions and the implications of such decisions, investigate issues, interpret facts, provide a forum for discussion and provide a feedback from the public to the government. It is therefore important that the media should be free to perform this role without being interfered with by the government. Otherwise democracy will not be worth being called by that name.

In India part of the news media - radio, TV - has alwyas been owned and operated by the government. Only the newspapers were independent. Since Emergency was declared efforts have been made to bring newspapers under government control. Not satisifed with censorship, the Government of India is now forcing news agencies to merge, political satire is being banned (Shankar's Weekly is dead) and independent-minded newspaper editors are being ordered to be fired(G.Varughese of Hindustan Times is an example).

Slowly but surely the news media is being manipulated by the Government of India thereby demolishing one of the main pillars of any democratic form of political set up This indeed is very sad and disheartening.

One can understand measures to discourage yellow journalism, exploitation of sex and violence etc by the news media in order to make them more responsible. But when the news media is used to control political thinking and political parties, democracy ceases to be democracy. One naturally asks - Were these drastic steps really necessary

Letters

National Organisation Needed

I read your editorial (October 16,1975) with great interest. I am not sure what is our total strength in terms of number all across Canada. If we are 50,000 or more, I would say, it is time we organize a National Association of Indo-Canadians (N.A.I.C.).

All immigrants including Poles, Italians, Portuguese and others have been subjected to the kind of harrassment you mention in your editorial at one time or another. However, I feel, that we as educated, cultured and skilled people should 'rise' above these petty name calling on the part of other Canadians, may they be white or not. And we can do this by building a strong - I mean culturally strong (even though we have so many regional cultures and religious backgrounds) - a national association with humane objectives and at the same time participate in Canadian political and community life in towns and cities we live.

There are three forms of governments in Canada - Federal, Provincial and Municipal. Of these three forms of government municipal government should be very dear to us, because it serves us where we live. I am an Indo-Canadian and I sat on local municipal government for 4 years as Chairman of Finance; people accepted me as a concerned Indo-Canadian and elected me twice to serve on the local government. I am sure a great many of us can do this in one form or another.

Your suggested national association of Indo-Canadians should keep membership open to other Canadians as well, as associate members.

Please let me know how you intend to go about forming a national association of Indo-Canadians. I would like to help and may be, work on your 'founding committee of national association of Indo-Canadians'.

A CONCERNED INDO-CANADIAN from Ontario.

Royal Commission Invites Views

As you are probably aware, the Royal Commission on Violence in the Communications Industry will be holding public hearings in Ottawa, on April 29th, 30th and May 1st, 1976.

At that time, the Commission will be receiving briefs and submissions from all interested groups and individuals. In order to schedule participants, we are asking those individuals or organizations who wish to make submissions to do so at least three weeks in advance of the hearing date.

Wherever possible, we hope that the Ontario Division of national associations, or the provincial office of Ontario-wide groups, will present a single brief on behalf of the individual chapters or branches. We recognize, however, that this may not always be possible and, of course, we are always open to briefs from local groups, whatever their national or provincial affiliations.

If you or any member of your organization is interested in preparing a brief for us, would you please let me know at your earliest convenience. I enclose our brochure, and if there is any further information or assistance we can provide please feel free to get in touch with me at your convenience. Our toll-free number is 1-800-261-7091 when the office is closed, calls are answered automatically and are followed up the next day by me or a member of my staff.

We are looking forward to hearing from members of your community.

Ms. Sheila Kieran
Director of Public Participation
Toronto

Research With Foreign Grants Criticised

New Delhi, (UNI): Prime Minister Indira Gandhi said here that the government was trying to change the research policy to facilitate work on the needs and problems of India.

Mrs. Gandhi said that in the absence of internal funding, many Indian scientists looked up to foreign grants and research programs, which were naturally geared to the priorities of the sponsors.

"Our scientific talent goes to serve the purpose of others and sometimes we are used as guinea pigs," she said.

Mrs. Gandhi, who was speaking after presenting the Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar awards to 18 eminent scientists, announced that she had "directed that sufficient funds should be made available to our research institutions and universities".

Listing priority areas for research, Mrs. Gandhi said a great deal of work could be done on solar energy and other replenishable sources of energy, innovation in pumping water from wells, and improving the efficiency of bullock cart which even today carried more goods over short distances than the railway and road transport put together.

The awards recipient were: Dr. M. K. Vainu Bappu, Director, Indian Insititute of Astrophysics, Kodaikanal, Dr. B. B. Biswas, Bose Institute, Calcutta, Dr. S. C. Maheshwari, Delhi University, Dr. S. V. Kessar, Punjab University, Dr. A. P. B. Sinha, National Chemical Laboratory, Poona, Dr. R. P. Wadhwa, Bharat Electronics Ltd., Bangalore, Dr. A. S. Gupta Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur, Prof. S. Chandrasekhar, Raman Research Institute, Bangalore, Dr. S. K. Joshi, Roorkee University, Dr. S. S. Guraya, Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana, Dr. B. R. Murthy, Director, Nuclear Research Laboratory, IARI, New Delhi, Dr. M. V. GEORGE IIT, Kanpur, Dr. H. B. Mathur, National Chemical Laboratory, Poona, Dr. M. M. Sharma, University Department of Chemical Technology, Bombay and Dr. Virendra singh, Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Bombay.

Dr. Govinda Swarup, Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Bombay, Dr. K. Naha, IIT, Kharagpur, and Dr. S. C. Seshadri, Tata Institute, Bombay.

The awards were for the years 1970, 1972 and 1973.

Finance Minister C. Subramaniam inaugurating the 10th All India Conference of Tax Executives in New Delhi. Mr. Subramaniam said the government's tax policies would be geared to promote savings and investment for achieving faster growth with stability and social justice.

Menon Stamp Released

New Delhi: At a function organised here on October 24, the Vice President, B.D. Jatti, released a postage stamp on V.K.Krishna Menon, former Defence Minister of India.

Krishna Menon played important role in moulding the United Nations, to reflect the aspiration of the developing countries. He was a crusader in the cause of human dignity.

He was a many-splendoured personality who had wide and varied interests. He was known for his sharp intellect, clear vision and sheer tenacity. The lone and tireless struggle he carried on for a number of years in Great Britain in the cause of India's freedom helped to arouse the British public opinion against colonialism in India. As Secretary of the India League in London for two decades Menon poured forth his passionate energy for the cause of India's struggle.

In the post-independence era, Menon played many vital roles as a diplomat, as India's forthright spokesman in the United Nations, as a member of the Union Cabinet as Minister, as a member of Parliament and as a leading jurist. In the world forum, he was well-known for his advocacy of not only India's cause but also of developing nations. His contribution to modernising India's defence forces and defence production are also very significant.

On the death of Mr. Menon on October 6, 1974 Mrs. Indira Gandhi said that with his death a volcano had become extinct.

Releasing the stamp on Mr. Menon the Vice President said: "His (Menon's) life and personality had become so much a part of our national life, his thoughts and ideas had become so much a part of our intellectual atmosphere that his death left a gap, a void that would be indeed difficult to fill."

Employment Discrimination Against Third World Immigrants

By Dr. H.M.A. Hameed

Continued from last issue

(The following are excerpts from Prof. Hameed's paper recently presented at the Multiculturalism Conference in Edmonton. The study was based on a sample survey.)

In order to identify the presence of discrimination in the hiring of TWIs, five 'indirect' questions were included in the survey. One of the questions dealt with productivity on the job.

PRODUCTIVITY: Ninety-four companies assessed the productivity performance of TWIs as average. But interestingly enough, 25 companies rated them as above average. There were also 10 other companies which rated them below average. Given these responses, it appears that both groups of companies are likely to discriminate in subsequent hiring of TWIs, although majority of them in favour.

QUALIFICATIONS: Ethnic groups generally create a stereotyped image and managers quite often keep this image in mind and tend to generalize. For instance, a question which asked about the qualifications of TWIs when they presented themselves for employment elicited the following responses:

(1) High educational background but very little skill in applying knowledge.

(2) Indian and Pakistanis have above average academic qualifications but below average practical knowhow.

However, 94 companies rated the qualifications of TWIs as average whereas 22 companies felt that they had above average qualifications when they presented themselves for employment. The question is: were they accordingly given higher salaries or positions in keeping with their above average qualifications? One possible implication of above average qualifications is that in case they were hired, they were probably underemployed, and therefore discriminated.

The group on the other extreme which was rated as below average in qualifications (18 companies) may contribute towards establishing a stereotyped image and may prove detrimental for future job seekers from the Third World.

Thus, both below average and above average categories may constitute potential discrimination factors in the job market.

ADAPTABILITY: Adaptability to work environment could be a crucial criterion in the hiring of TWIs. Conceivably the term adaptability includes such factors as familiarity with Canadian standards and procedures as well as formal and informal interaction with supervisors and fellow workers. Sixty-one companies indicated that TWIs in their employment had no dificulty in adapting to work environment. But 59 companies thought that TWIs had some difficulty in adapting. One company specifically complained that TWIs were usually more abrasive than North Americans. Three other companies had even poorer experience in that TWIs did not adapt and had to leave. One wonders to what extent problems of adaptability prejudice managers in future hiring, assignment and promotion decisions.

ABSENTEEISM: Managers were more explicit on a subsequent question related with the problem of hiring of TWIs. Seven companies said that TWIs had a high rate of absenteeism. Some of these companies singled out Latin American employees as having this problem. Similarly, 14 companies complained of high turnover rate among TWIs. It appears that high turnover rate is implicitly connected with the incidence of above average qualifications reported earlier. In other words, if an employee with above average qualifications is hired at par with employees having average qualifications, he would change jobs at the earliest opportunity. Thus high turnover rate may be a symptom of discriminatory hiring in the first place.

Perhaps there are peculiarities or inadequacies in the educational system and cultural context of India and Pakistan that 16 companies repeatedly singled out TWIs from these two nationalities for lack of originality and initiative. Among other problems, language was cited by nine companies.

Conclusions

Discrimination in personnel practices is likely to exist at three different junctures: (1) in hiring, (2) in administering differential wages and, (3) in promotion. TWIs enter the Canadian labour market with a possibility of being discriminated at all three levels. They have distinct handicaps. What generally deteriorates their employment and promotion opportunities are such factors as unfamiliarity with business practices, non-recognition of their qualifications and skills, lack of information on recruiting systems.

On the hiring level, it is significant that 33 companies (27 percent) reported that there was discrimination against TWIs from other employees. Research has indicated that managers are susceptible to the impact of third parties.

It would be unrealistic to deny that Canadian managers remain completely unaffected by the reactions of the fellow employees.

Undoubtedly, it is comforting to note that a large majority of the responding firms (72.9 percent) are free from this third party pressure.

Discrimination of TWIs at the level of wage differentials and promotion may be more serious than it is in recruitment. But the survey results are inadequate to support this assumption. Two indications used in the survey, namely, productivity and qualifications yielded the following results:

Senator Shocked At Multiculturalism Policy

By Nicolaas Van Rijn

A Progressive Conservative senator says he was "shocked and indignant" when he learned of federal plans to change Canada's official multiculturalism policy.

Senator Paul Yuzyk of Winnipeg told the annual meeting of the Canadian Folk Arts Council it should insist upon a meeting with Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau to discuss the proposals before there's any further action.

Last week, John Munro, federal minister responsible for biculturalism, said the government is preparing to transform its multiculturalism program into one designed specifically to combat racial and ethnic discrimination.

Nearly 50 representatives of ethnic and cultural groups throughout Canada were present at the arts meeting where Yuzyk spoke Sunday. Those who spoke condemned the proposals and said they would sound the "death-knell" for biculturalism in Canada if implemented.

SENT TELEGRAM

Yuzyk, as chairman of the council, and 10 presidents of national ethnic organization attending the meeting sent a telegram to Trudeau afterward asking for a meeting with him, Munro and Secretary of State Hugh Faulkner.

The organizations were: Ukrainian-Canadian Committee, Federation of Italian-Canadian Associations and Clubs, Canadian -Polish Congress, Estonian Council of Canada, Canadian Baltic Federation, Canadian Hungarian Federation, Latvian National Federation, Polish Alliance of Canada Canadian Slovak League and the Slovak Canadian Professional and Businessmen's Association.

The proposed changes, the telegram stated, were viewed by the signers "as a total negation of the letter of spirit of your announced policy on multiculturalism."

Julius Koteles of winnipeg, national chairman of the Canadian Consultative Council on multiculturalism, told the meeting Munro's remarks so far reported only in newspapet interviews-"may have been a trial balloon."

TYPICAL PERIOD

If so, Koteles added, "it was not very responsible."

In the last 31 months for which statistics are availble, he said, the government has spent $4,300,000 on its multicultural programs. For a typical period March 1972 to October 1974 that works out to 10 cents per Canadian each year, he said.

"What minister, if he's checked his figures, is going to say that we're going to shift that kind of money to fight discrimination?"

To effectively fight discrimination, Koteles said, federal and provincial governments should be spending around $2 per capita annually.

The multicultural program has been effective and has worked well, he added.

"What a cruel, thoughtless, insensitive flippancy, to throw this kind of scare into all Canadians..."

The "crisis" facing Canada today, Koteles said, "is not the postal strike, or whether to build an airport at Pickering, or politicians lining their pockets at Dorval it's the right to be different."

'IT'LL STAY'

Yuzyk, active in Ukrainian-Canadian affairs before he was appointed to the senate in 1963, said multiculturalism "was here before it was announced as official government policy, and it'll stay...They may twist it, they may try to twist it..."

Ethnic groups and the folk arts [illegible] exert enough pressure on the government to force it to reconsider Munro's intention to change the program, he added.

George Knight, president of the Canadian-Hungarian Federation, said, "after this, I really don't know what's being left as the multicultural policy of the government."

Referring to Munro's intention to cut funding of folklore arts programs and third-language training, "all we have left is the melting pot," he said.

(TORONTO STAR)

From Thatched Huts To Tiled Roofs

By A.J. Singh

Banglore, Karnataka has added another first to its long list of firsts. Hundreds of Harijan families in Karnataka have moved into tiled houses from their thatched huts. The credit for this achievement goes to the Janata Housing Project, which has completed 14,000 houses in the first phase of its massive housing scheme spread all over the state. 21,000 houses are underway and work on an additional 17,000 was launched on Oct. 2,1975 to commemorate Mahatma Gandhi's birthday.

L.B. Manikatti, special officer of the Janata Housing Project says, "these houses are good enough at least for 20 years." For the Harijans in Mysore and the Hassan districts, who are the beneficiaries in this first phase, it is dream come true.

The houses are single-roomed, tiled and of either neat mud or of brick walls. They cost Rs. 2,500 each. Of this the Govt. provides Rs. 2,000/-, Rs. 1,000/- as subsidy and Rs. 1,000/-as a loan to be recovered from the resident in monthly installments of Rs. 4/-stretching over 20 years. The assignee has to contribute Rs. 500/-in the form of material or labour. Most of the beneficiaries prefer to provide labour. Those who pay in cash do so either by raising a loan or selling their live-stock.

The project was launched 2 years ago. But since then the building costs have gone up by 20 to 30 per cent. Timber now costs Rs. 935/-per house as against Rs. 650/-in 1973. M.Y. Ghorpade, the State Finance Minister, who is incharge of the project, has announced that the Govt. will supply teak and hard wood as at subsidized rates to house-builders.

Street-lighting and domestic lighting are provided to these colonies as a matter of course; bore-wells and approach roads to the main thorough fares of the towns are under construction wherever needed.

But the question crops up: Why these exclusive Harijan villages? The officials attribute this to the reluctance of the Harijans to live in the midst of the dominant communities, although some members of the scheduled castes deny it. Ironically, caste distinctions are quite sharp even among the Harijans themselves, preventing a free-mingling between sub-castes like the Adi-Dravidas and Adi-Karnatakas.

In contrast, some of the newly-sprung villages, caste Hindus, Muslims, stonecutters and potters live in amity. The people of these villages are mostly labourers on daily wages. They are supposed to earn a minimum of Rs. 4/-per day. But most farm hands receive only Rs. 2/-per day. Those who are fed by the landlords in the middle of the day receive Rs. 1/-only. The landlords explain these meagre wages by saying that the association between the landlords and the farm-hands is a life-long one and the landlords invariably give food or cash to their workers during weddings, festivals and death ceremonies; they also help them out with cash at times of need.

Mutual co-operation is the dominant motif of these villages. A community hall costing Rs. 12,000 has been built in one village on the outskirts of Mysore district while coconut seedlings have been supplied free in another by the Taluqa Board or the Social Welfare Board. In a third village, the residents have ear-marked Monday for community service like fencing the farms, building carts roads and so on.

Like all other schemes the housing project also faces many troubles. The 1973-74 budget provides Rs 5/crores, but only Rs 80 lakhs were made available. The 1974-75 budget allocated Rs 2.3 crores which has been fully utilised. The 1975-76 budget has provided Rs. 4/- crores.

In keeping with this glorious tradition, Karnataka takes a lead in following up its site distribution programme with a people's housing plan. Out of the 500,000 sites targeted for free distribution, over 400,000 have been distributed. Private land is being acquired for further distribution. The housing project plans to build only 50,000 houses; the rest have to make their own arrangements to build houses on the sites alloted to them. However, in view of the treatment meted out to Harijans in other parts of India, this programme of Karnataka...of providing 50,000 Harijan families with decent houses, well-provided with all amenities...deserves all praise.

Inquiry Ordered

New Delhi, Dec. 23 (UNI): The Government has ordered an inquiry into the working of the Indian Express group of newspapers under Section 27 of the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Act.

An official press release said here that Law and Company Affairs Minister H. R. Gokhale had directed his department to make a reference to the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Commission (MRTPC) as the working of the Express group had been "found to be prejudicial to the public interest".

The grounds on which the Commission has been asked to inquire include the obtaining by the companies of public funds which have been used for non-newspaper business like speculative trading in shares and real estate investments, diversion of as much as Rs 110 million for uses unrelated to newspaper activity and heavy losses to the tune of Rs 80 million as on April 30, 1974 incurred by the companies by such diversion.

Youth Hostels Planned

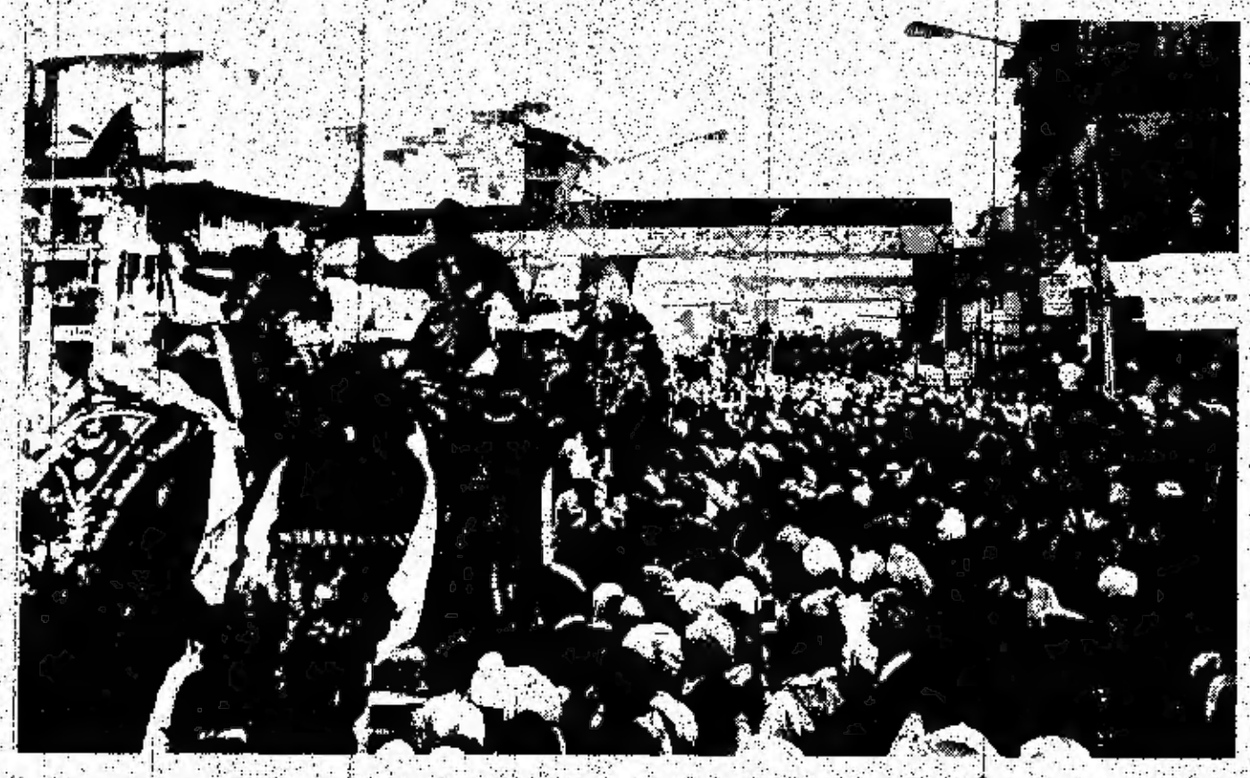
New Delhi, Dec. 22 (UNI): A chain of youth hostels is being set up in various parts of India to cater to the needs of young and less affluent tourists from abroad and Indian youths.

Nine out of 14 such hostels, being constructed by the Tourism Department, have already started functioning. The remaining will be ready for accommodation by the end of this year. The hostels, having 40 to 44 beds, will be available to youths at Rs 4 to Rs 6 per head per day.

A unique feature of the management of these hostels is the appointment of ex-army officers and their wives as wardens and assistant wardens. Since a number of girl tourists will also be staying at these hostels, it has been considered necessary to have a husband and wife team which will function more smoothly and efficiently.

Nearly 1,41,000 young tourists visited India in 1974.

News In Pictures



A mammoth day-long procession last month in New Delhi marked the beginning of the year-long commemoration of the tricentenary of the martydom of the Ninth Guru of the Sikh Community, Guru Teg Bahadur, who was beheaded at Chandini Chowk (Gurdwara Sis Ganj) following his refusal to renounce his religion.

The External Affairs Ministers Y. B. Chavan (left) with Abdul Halim Khaddam, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Syrian Arab Republic who was on an official visit to India recently.

A high level Bangala Desh delegation held discussion with Indian leaders last month. Photo shows: Leader of the Delegation, Mr. Justice A. Sattar (2nd from right), J. Hussain, Foreign Secretary (right), G. Parthasarathy who led the Indian side (2nd from left) and Kewal Singh, India's Foreign Secretary.

Accompanied by her son Sanjay Gandhi, the Prime Minister, Mrs. Gandhi planting a sapling at the Nehru Samadhi. Looking on behind (left) is the Union Health Minister Dr. Karan Singh.

Facsimiles of six multi- coloured postage stamps on popular Indian dances was issued recently by the Posts and Telegraphs Department. The dances depicted are: Bharata Natyam, Odissi, Kathak, Kathakali, Kuchipudi and Manipuri.

C. Ram Sewak, the new Minister of State for Health and Family Planning.

C. Bansi Lal, the new Defence Minister.

(left) with Abdul
and Minister for
who was on an

Prime Minister,
Samadhi. Looking
Dr. Karan Singh.

the new Defence

Idukki Project:

A Shining Symbol Of Indo-Canadian Cooperation

By George Mathew

The gigantic Idukki Hydro Electric Project, one of the biggest in India, constructed with financial and technical assistance from Canada has an installed capacity of 780 m. w. of power.

The Rs. 110 crore project constructed to harness the waters of River Periyar would irrigate 60,000 hectares of land. It is the biggest such project in the southern most state of Kerala which would increase the state's capacity to generate electricity by 150 percent. The foreign exchange content of the project is about 10 percent, the lowest for such projects.

The trial run of one of its generators began in October 1975. The generation of electricity is expected to commence on January 1976 and by June it would have produced electricity worth Rs. 5 crores.

"It was a challenge and they won it," said the Canadian Resident Engineer A. Luise.

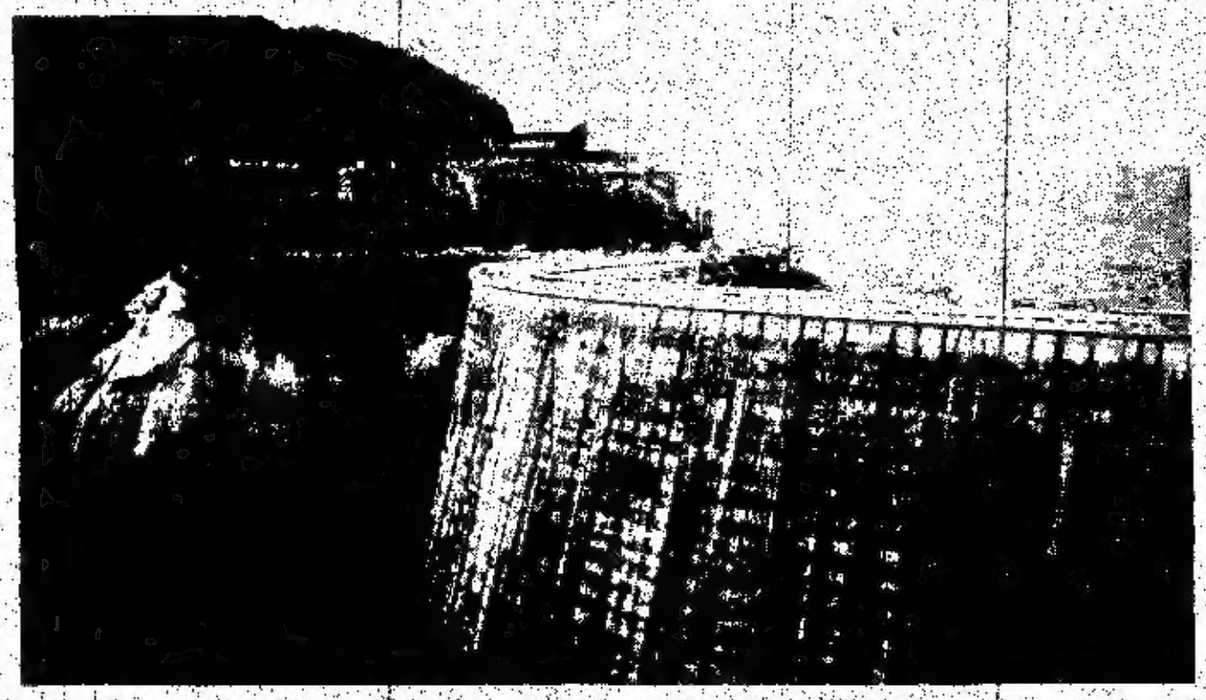
The project consists of a complex of three dams, the 555 ft. high Idukki arch dam across river Periyar, 454 ft. high Cheruthoni Dam across the tributory Cheruthoni river and 328 ft. high Kulamavu dam. This created a reservoir, the full level of which is 2400 ft. above the sea level. The reservior will have water spread over an area of 23.1 sq. miles.

The arch dam is the first of its kind in India and one of the 21 arch dams of the world. It is the second highest dam in India (171 metres), the first being Bakra (225.5 metres).

The tunnel intake of water conductor system is located at about 2000 ft. upstream of Kulamavu Dam at the end of the reservoir. The peak power draft of the six generators is 5400 cusecs. This is drawn through the power tunnel of 5650 feet long. The tunnel ends in an underground steel lined surge shaft. From there, two underground pressure shafts each having a length of about 3259 feet and 3136 feet respectively, lead the water to the generators in the power house.

The underground power house is a large cavern, 463 feet long, 65 ft. wide and 115 ft. high, driven deep inside the Nadugani hills. It is approached by a 200 ft. long access tunnel. In the first stage, it has three giant generators imported from Canada, each having a capacity of 130 M.W. At the second stage, three more generators of the same capacity will be added to these and finally the Idukki project will have an installed capacity of 780 M. W. of power. In the first stage its capacity will be only 390 M. W.

Mr. Wanchoo, Governor of Kerala inaugurated the trial run of the Idukki dam generator by symbolically pressing a switch at a special ceremony, in the Idukki project site.



A view of the Idukki dam.

THE LEGEND

There is a legend behind the Arch Dam which connects two rock mountains named Kuravan and Kurathy. The local tribe believes that Sriraman spent a considerable part of his 12 year exile (vanavasa) in the forests now containing the rock mountains. A Kuravan and his wife, Kurathy, were living in the forest at that time. One day Sita, assuming that the area was devoid of human beings, went to River Periyar for taking bath. The Kuravan and Kurathy were surprised to see a woman taking bath there and amazed at her beauty they sat on a rock at a distance and watched with curiosity. As Sita cleared her eyes after the first dip in the water, she spotted the two looking at her nonchalantly. She got freightened and cried for help.

Sriraman heard the unexpected cry of a woman in that strange forest ran to the spot. He saw the helpless Sita who cried pointing her finger at the Kuravan and Kurathy.

Sriraman became furious and cursed the Kuravan and Kurathy that they be separated for ever and live apart as two rocks on the opposite banks of the river. They fell at the feet of Sriraman and pleaded for pardon.

Sriraman, in an act of kindness, decreed that they will be united by men in "Kali Yuga". The local tribe who narrates the story today believe that the legend has come true as the Arch Dam unites the two rock mountains, Kuravan and Kurathy.

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Shake -Up Of Medical Course

New Delhi, Dec. 26 (UNI): The All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) has undertaken a thorough "shake-up" of the medical course, giving an orientation to community health needs.

According to the newly-structured curriculam, nearly 50 percent of the training in clinical sciences is now taking place in the rural and urban community health centres attached to the Institute.

Other changes include introduction of integrated courses to present medicine as a coherent whole, encouraging the student to learn by himself and cultivation of the ability to work independently, introduction of the system of continuous assessment of students, objective methods of examination and introduction of new courses relevant to the country's health problems.

AIIMS Director Ramalinga Swami told a news conference here that the Institute was currently engaged in strengthening the teaching of human reproduction, family planning and population dynamics as an integrated teaching program in various medical colleges in India with assistance from the World Health Organization (WHO).

Death Sentence Sought

New Delhi, Dec. 23 (UNI): The Delhi Administration has filed an appeal in the Delhi High Court seeking enhancement of the sentence for all the accused in the Vidya Jain murder case to death sentence.

Seven persons were convicted by the Sessions Court to life imprisonment on July 26 on charges of conspiring and murdering Mrs. Vidya Jain, wife of the noted eye surgeon Dr. N. S. Jain, one of the accused, at their residence here on December 3, 1973.

All the seven accused — Dr. N. S. Jain, Mrs. Chandresh Sharma, Rakesh Kaushik, Kalyan Gupta, Ujagar Singh, Kartar Singh, and Bhagirath — have already filed appeals in the High Court against their conviction. One more accused Ramji, had turned approver and was granted pardon.

In their appeal, the Delhi Administration has said "looking to the cold-blooded, brutal and heinous murder of an innocent lady for the immoral and base purpose of clearing the way for the union of Dr. Jain and Chandresh Sharma, there was no mitigating or extenuating circumstance for imposing of a lesser sentence. The lesser penalty awarded to the accused has resulted in grave miscarriage of justice".

The sentences awarded to the accused, the Administrtion has stated, are "grossly inadequate and improper" and the trial court ought to have awarded capital punishment".

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India Derecognises U.K. Medical Degrees

By Our Correspondent

New Delhi: The Medical Council of India has derecognised British medical qualifications, including the prestigious FRCS and MRCP.

However, the derecognition will take effect only in March 1977 in order to mitigate any hardship that may befall Indian students who have registered or are preparing to take these examinations.

According to Dr. B. N. Sinha, President of the edical Council of India (MCI), the decision of the Council was in keeping with the "national interest and national dignity" and not a sequel to the decision of the British counterpart derecognizing Indian Medical degrees.

It may be recalled that the British Medical Council took a unilateral step in May last abrogating the reciprocal arrangements and derecognising Indian Medical degrees. The MCI, which is responsible to set standards of training and examinations in the medical colleges in India, had reacted sharply to the BMC decision not to grant full registration to India medical graduates to practice in the U.K. after May 22, 1975. Indian Medical qualifications were first recognized in Britain in 1892.

The government of India had recently accepted a scheme for all-India post graduate examinations by a national board under the auspices of the Indian Academy of Medical Sciences. Separate boards for various specialities had been constituted. The first of these examinations will be held in January 1976.

The scheme would provide opportunities to Indian doctors to acquire in their own country prestigious qualifications of high academic merit comparable to any such qualifications elsewhere in the world.

Dr. Sinha said that a large number of Indian doctors who had gone to England on British invitation and served there for years wanted to return home. The Medical Council would consider suitable placements for them.

There are about 10,000 Indian doctors working in the UK, of whom 7,000 work in hospitals. A number of them are manning the British National Health Service.

The present decision derecognising British Medical degrees and the earlier step to establish a national board to conduct all-India post-graduate examinations of relatively high quality are expected check the brain drain. There are already about 10,000 Indian doctors on the waiting list for immigration to Britain.

The success of the governments efforts to discourage the exodus of Indian doctors abroad would greatly depend on the worth of the post graduate degrees that would be available in the country under the new scheme.

Kalidasa Academy will be established in Ujjain by the Madhya Pradesh Government in which other State Governments will also participate. Pic. shows this announcement being made by M. P. Chief Minister P. C. Sethi while the Vice-President of India B. D. Jatti looks on.

Mental Retardation Linked To Lead Poisening

Lucknow, Dec. 24 (UNI): Licking paints of toys or printed material or chewing paper and pencils may cause mental retardation among children through lead poisoning, according to toxicologists of the Industrial Toxicology Centre here.

Prsenting a paper on lead poisoning at the international symposium in industrial toxicology being held here, Dr. T. D. Seth of the Centre said a preliminary study on 18 mentally retarded children had led them to believe that lead intake and mental retardation were correlated. These children had very high levels of lead in their blood compared to normal children.

It is the first time in the world that a correlation between mental retardation in children and lead poisoning has been reported.

Many foreign scientists at the symposium questioned the validity of the findings on the ground that a limited study like this could not be taken as a final word on the subject. Some of them contended that mental retardation in these children could as well have been caused by genetic causes.

Dr. Seth said children were exposed to frequent lead poisoning because they were likely to swallow paints from walls and from toys. Coloured magazines and paper chewed by children could also be another source.

Glazed earthernware also contained lead and this could get into the human system through food.

He pointed out that because of a larger number of lead poisoning cases in the United States, that country had banned paints containing lead since the second world war. India should also do it if lead poisoning, particularly in children and paint workers, were to be avoided, Dr. Seth said.

British Aid

New Delhi, Dec. 23 (UNI): Under four agreements signed here Britain will give India 94.2 million pounds (Rs 1,677 million) as grants. This is the largest grant ever made by Britain to India.

British High Commissioner, Sir Michael Walker, and Secretary in the Department of Economic Affairs, M. Kaul, signed the agreement.

Sir Michael later told a news conference that he expected British aid to India would reach the 100 million pounds mark by the end of the current year. The agreements reflected Britain's determination to follow up its new policy of giving assistance to the most seriously affected countries with a per capita income of less than 200 dollars on grant terms.

He said the British Government was trying to persuade other aid-giving countries like the European Economic Community to adopt Britain's policy in the matter of giving developmental assistance.

High Strength Steel

New Delhi, Dec. 26 (UNI): For the first time in India, high strength weldable structural steels required for a variety of uses have been developed and commercially produced by the Rourkela Steel Plant.

DMK And CPM To Merge?

Madras, (UNI): Tamil Nadu Chief Minister K. Karunaniudhi has hinted at the possibility of the Communist Party of India-Marxist (CPM) and the ruling Dravida Munnetra Kazhakam (DMK) coming together in Tamil Nadu in the near future.

Speaking at the conclusion of a two day Anti-Fascism conference organized by the DMK, Mr. Karunanidhi referred to the presence of Marxist leader E.M.S. Namboodiripad on the stage and said nobody need be surprised about it. The Marxist party and the DMK would go well beyond the conference and into the future, he added.

Tribal Illiteracy

The Orissa Govt. has envisaged a 2-crore Adult education program for the remaining 3 years of the Plan period. It has approached the Centre to finance this "essential Investment" in the socio-economic development of this retrograde sector.

According to this programme, 35,500 adults will receive instruction each year for the next 3 years. About 1,185 Sevashrams (Primary schools) run by the Tribal & Rural welfare department, will conduct night classes. Admission will be restricted to about 30 adults per school initially. Incentive is provided in the form of an extra payment of Rs 40/p.m. to the teacher teaching in these classes and Rs 20/- p.m. to each adult who attends 90 percent of the classes. Other allurements are Audio-Visual equipment, pictorial maps, charts and slates.

Call For Vigilence

New Delhi, (UNI): Prime Minister Indira Gandhi has called for constant vigilance to ensure that certain "misguided people" did not undermine the basic features of the Indian democracy like tolerance, communal harmony and friendly relations with neighbouring countries.

She was referring to the banned organisations and their earlier activities while addressing the Deputy Inspectors General of Police from various States and other senior police officials.

Indian Vehicles Popular

New Delhi, (UNI): Indian made commercial vehicles are becoming popular abroad and their exports doubled last year as compared to the previous year.

According to official figures estimated export of vehicles last year was worth about Rs 200 million (26.66 million dollars) compared to a little less than Rs 100 million (13.33 million dollars) in 1973-74.

In 1974-75 the number of jeeps exported rose to 900 from 175 in the previous year. The countries to which export has been made and contracted include Afghanistan, Uganda, Sri Lanka, Zaire, Mauritius, Nigeria, Bangladesh, Hong Kong, Iraq and The West Indies.

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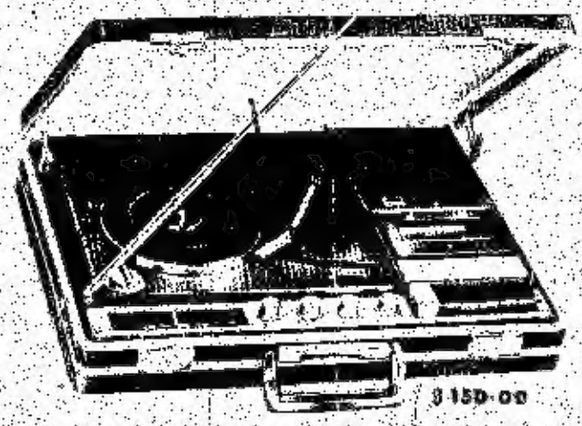

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Indus Valley To Indira Gandhi

By Jaya Subramaniam

Written produced and directed by S.Krishnaswamy, "Indus Valley to Indira Gandhi" is a series of films for television. In making these films for TV Mr. Krishnaswamy was thinking not only of TV in India, but also of the world wide TV networks and the apalling ignorance of people in the West about the history, culture, people, past, present and future of India.

These artistic creations of Krishnaswamy's will enable Indians to feel proud of being Indian. They will fill the gaps in the education of Indian children being brought up in other countries such as Canada.

Indus Valley to Indira Gandhi will portray Indian civilization from the Mohenjadaro period to the 1970's. The first two films are both one hour long and constitute an introduction to, and an abridgment of, the remaining thirteen films. The whole series is in colour and the commentary is in English.

What a treat it will be to view the series, written, produced and directed by a person who loves his country as well as knows her.

We hope a hearty welcome awaits these films in Canada and that future versions in other languages are also as good as the main English version.

S. KRISHNASWAMY is founder and Managing Director of Krishnaswamy Associates Private Limited - a company which produces the largest number of documentary, educational and advertising films in India, next only to the Government of India.

Krishnaswamy's BROWN DIAMOND', a short film on a lignite mine won him the President of India's Award, in 1968. The Government of India entered his film "I" in the Berlin Film Festival in 1973.

Krishnaswamy is coauthor with Prof. Erik Barnouw, of the highly acclaimed book INDIAN FILM published by Columbia University Press. He wrote a popular column in THE ILLUSTRATED WEEKLY OF INDIA and has contributed to several other journals. His new book which is sociological study of the south Indian film is due for publication soon.

During 1970-73, Krishnaswamy was also the Principal Adviser to Gemini Adshorts, one of the largest distributors of short films in India with a large network of cinemas. In 1961 he worked for the Regents Educational Television of New York State. He has addressed many an audience directly and through Radio and Television, in India, Ceylon, Singapore and Malaysia on subjects related to the mass media and Indian Philosophy and culture. His speciality is a study of the impact of modern communication on traditional culture.

Krishnaswamy is a Joint Secretary of the Federation of Film Societies of India and a member of the advisory council to the Film and Television Institute of India, the selection committee of the National Film Archive. Founder President of Rasama an art society in Madras, he has been Secretary of the Advertising club, guest lecturer at the Indian Institute of Mass Communication the Insitute of Film Technology and member of the advisory committee of the Film Finance Corporation of the Government of India.

In 1969, Krishnaswamy was nominated Secretary of the Jury for the Fourth International Film Festival of India, New Delhi.

Born in 1938, Krishnaswamy took his Bachelor's degree in Physics from Madras University and his Master's degree in film and television from Columbia University, New York.

Electronic Treatment For Arthritis

Cochin, Kerala, Dec. 26 (UNI): An electronic device developed by two scientists here not only kills pain, but obviates the use of expensive drugs and antibiotics.

The instrument has been jointly developed by Dr. Mathew George, orthopaedic surgeon of the Ernakulam General Hospital, and Prof. M. N. Nampoothiripad of the department of electronics of the local St. Albert's College.

Experiments conducted on about 200 persons at the General Hospital so far had yielded "wonderful and encouraging results" in killing pain as well as curing orthopaedic complaints like back-ache (lumbago) neck-pain (spondilities) shoulder pain (periarthritis) knee pain (osteo-arthritis) and the like, they told UNI in an interview.

They have named the therapy as "myrolytic therapy" since it involves electrolysis with a very small measure of current obtained from a dry cell battery.

They said the idea was derived from the Chinese acupuncture treatment. In acupuncture, electric charge is generated while rotating the needle slowly during insertion into the body. Therefore, it was decided to measure the weakest perceptible current and the instrument was designed to do this.

Raga Concert In Calgary

By Eugene Chadbourne

Calgary's Raga Mala Society finally came out of its living rooms Saturday night for a concert at the University Theatre featuring classical Indian vocalist Dr. Jon Higgins of Toronto's York University.

The Raga Mala group has been in existence for more than a year, and is noted — among those smart enough to attend — for its evening and into the wee hour living room concerts feturing Indian classical musicians currently living in Alberta along with the occasional performer of international stature.

The Higgins concert is the first Raga Mala event to be presented in an actual theatre. Co-sponsored by the U of C division of continuing education, it attracted a small but appreciative audience.

In front, it should be said that there certainly should be more people than this interested in attending an Indian concert of this calibre.

The music represented is important to all serious listeners, whatever tradition they come from. The intricate rhythmic structure of Indian music should be of value to those whose tastes veer toward European classical music, while its suscription to the aesthetic of improvisation makes it essential listening for the growing local "jazz" audience.

At any rate, Dr. Higgins presented a simply superb series of compositions from the traditional Indian repertoire, accompanied by Trichy Sankaran on the mridangam drum, Calgarian Nanda Banergee on tambura, and a harmonium player.

Sankaran — who also teaches at York — tore the place up completely at the conclusion of the first half with a long solo, accompanied by tambour, harmonium and Higgins' knee-slapping.

This was percussion playing on such an incredible technical and — more important — inspirational level that it became ridiculous.

Members of the audience burst into applause, laughed and cheered throughout, while Sankaran grinned (all drummers would grin if they were this good) and went about his work.

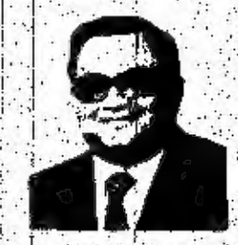
Near the end, he deposited a highly resonant pitch in between two phrases, the musical result bringing to mind something LeRoi Jones wrote about another equally inspired musician in the '60s: "Every note he plays is like fistfulls of dollar bills being handed out to the poor".

Higgins, who is not a native Indian but whose understanding of Indian music is also on a very high level, rarely reached as emotional a peak as Sankaran. Yet his voice is flexible, extremely so — ready to reach each of the many areas of vocal expression this music calls for.

The exchanges between Higgins and Sankaran revealed two players as one; giving, taking, sharing. The long, intense pieces that characterized the first half and the shorter, "lighter" music of the second half each displayed this empathy in diffeent settings.

When musicians are as in touch with their music as these men are, the result is something to be remembered.

[The Calgary Herald, Dec. 1]



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Books On Religion Donated

Prof. J. K. Wani donating a cheque of $2,000 to Dr. H. Coward for the books.

Calgary: There has been a continuing quest on this continent for spiritual and philosophical thoughts of ancient India. This is part of the Ecumenical Spirit that is prevalent in the world of today. The Calgary community of people hailing from India or those who owe their cultural heritage to India desire to play their role in this process, and help in the presentation of ancient thoughts to the western world in the best available form.

It was felt that one essential way to achieve this would be to make available books authored by well-known scholars specializing in Philosophy of India and/or by seers who have experienced these thoughts in their daily life. This led to the project, namely, to donate books on Eastern Religions to the University Library. This project is coming to its successful conclusion. Swami Bhaskarananda of the Ramakrishna Mission, Seattle, who is visiting Calgary, has been able to bless this worthwhile endeavour and present a cheque to Dr. H. Coward for $2,000. Dr. Coward, in consultation with the book selection committee nominated by the community, will purchase books on Eastern Religions. These books will be very useful to the students and citizens of Calgary who are interested in the philosophy of ancient India.

The coordinator of the project was Prof. J.K. Wani. Dr. Manu Patel undertook to contact several members of the community to solicit donations. The Singh Society ($100) has specifically donated books on Sikh Religion. The Vedanta Society of Calgary ($450) the Gujarati Mandal of Calgary ($301), the Hindu Society ($262), India Canada Society ($100), and the India Students Association ($150) also wholeheartedly supported this project. The Provincial Government of Alberta matched the contributions dollar for dollar.

Land Ceilings

New Delhi, Dec. 26 (UNI): President Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed has promulgated an ordinance amending the Delhi Land Holdings (Ceiling) Act 1960, providing for ceilings between 18 and 54 acres for various types of land in accordance with the national guidelines on land ceilings. The ceilings under the old law ranged between 24 and 60 acres.

Ravi Shankar, a supernal master of Sitar was recently a guest of honor at a banquet hosted by Indo-Canadian Association of Nova Scotia at Holiday Inn, Halifax. (L to R) : N. S. Tomar (Secretary), M. Stanbury (Deputy Mayor of City of Halifax), Ravi Shankar, J. N. Kalia (President), C. O. Thomas, (Treasurer).

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"Handsome, U.P., Vaish, 5'11", well settled immigrant (Ph. D. in Chem. Eng.), marriage from beautiful, tall (5'6" minimum) girls. No bars. The Canadian India Times, Box 970.

Match required for pretty smart and enthusiastic, Jat Sikh girl, 23, studying for Masters in India. Father retired army officer. Brother and father very well settled in business in central India. Other sisters well settled in India and Canada. The Canadian India Times , Box. 971.

Suitable match, working in Canada or States, for handsome Kerala Christian boy, 25, MSc. Chemistry. The boy now resides in India. Marriage can be arranged in India or here. Only Kerala Christians need apply with full particulars to Box 972 . The Canadian India Times.

Wanted suitable matches for a tall girl, 20, B.A., father retired col. in India, sister well settled in Canada; a girl 21, doing teacher training, family well settled in England. Reply to P. O. Box 975, The Canadian India Times.

Handsome and youthful looking gentleman, Sikh, Punjabi background, well settled professional invites correspondence from attractive, well-educated (preferable professional) young women between 26-32. Caste, Religion, etc. no bar. Merits of the girl only consideration. The Canadian Indian Times P.O. Box 956.

Bachelor, 25, attractive, 5'8", 130 lbs., light complexion, MBA, position with large international firm looking for modern relationship with eventual goal marriage. Please enclose photo. Box. 973 The Canadian India Times.

Wanted beautiful match for Sikh (Shaved) boy 25. Doing Master of Arts final. Excellent future prospects. Caste no bar. Box 974, The Canadian India Times.

Wanted a match for a Sikh college-educated immigrant girl 21. Contact Dr. T. Singh, 1502 Gingerwood Ct. Vienna, VA (USA).

Versatile handsome, North Indian Hindu, 5' 11", 29, Ph. D. (Chemical Engineering), well settled U.S. Immigrant seeks a tall (above 5'6") extremely beautiful bride. Religion and province no bar. Mysorian and Kerala girls encouraged. please send returnable photo to Dr. S. Chandra, 265 Puffton Village, Amherst, Massachusetts, 01002, U.S.A.

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Thara Chotai of Brantford to Dev Reddy of Benoni, South Africa in Durban, South Africa.

Archbishop Angelo Fernandez of New Delhi who visited Canada recently.

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Ottawa Malayalees Celebrate Christmas

OTTAWA DECEMBER 20

For over 150 Malayalees in Ottawa Christmas was more than an annual get-together this year for they were able to infuse into it a twinge of Kerala culture in the form of dance and drama.

The highlights of the program were the orchestra organized by George Kallumkal and the one act play, "Pennukanal" ably produced and directed by A. V. Thomas who was also the chairman of the celebration committee. Mrs. Ammu Thomas organized a Christmas pageant of the children. A Harvest Dance presented by children drew warm aplause from the audience.

Special mention should be made of the remarkable display of talents in enacting the role of Kalyanikkutty in the drama by Mrs. Kunjamma Thomas. Other roles were played by Dr. T. J. Samuel, Mrs. Alice Joseph, A. V. Thomas and Mr. and Mrs. Brodi.

An elaborate dinner and Christmas presents from Santa were the concluding features of the program.

From left to right: Kunjamma Thomas, Alice Joseph, T. J. Samuel, Fonsamma Brodi, G. Brodi and A. V. Thomas.

From left to right: Lilian, Santosh, Sony and Alice.

Diwali In Vancouver

This year's Diwali Function of Hindu Parishad of B. C. will not be forgotten for many years to come. Nearly five thousand Indians and Canadians gathered in Garden Auditorium of PNE, to celebrate the festival of lights.

Dave Barrett their Premier of B. C. inaugurated the function. He was received by a group of Hindu girls led by Miss Nimmi Bali, the popular Bharat Natyam Dancer in traditional and colorful dresses with lamps in their hands. This year's variety entertainment program was more well organized and positively more appealing. Rajinder Joshi's drama and Mrs. Nirmal Sharma's powerful acting in "Sarwan Kumar" drama brought many tears and kept the audience spell-bound. The variety entertainment program was started with a powerful speech by Dr. D. P. Goel, the President of the Parishad. Dr. Shadilal Khanna introduced the premier. Natvarlal Thakore was leading the reception committee to honour the premier.

Mr. Nizar and his party with complete orchestra gave wonderful performance.

The highlights of the program were the magnificient dances by the dynamic students of Natraj School of Dancing, Miss Alka Goel, Miss Shalina Virani, Miss Dolly Shewa, Miss Nina Menrai and Miss Seema Desai led by Miss Nimmi Bali. The Fashion Parade organized by Miss Kamlesh Bali, Prsident of New Fashion Emproium astonished many. Surprisingly enough, Diwali Princess Crown in the Fashion Parade went to a Pakistani girl Rashida who was in traditional Hindu style saree. Raas and Bhangra by Gujrati Society and Punjab Cultural Association were the other highlights of the program. Hindu Parishad is really doing a wonderful work by bringing all communities on one platform.

Diwali Bazaar was also organized. any Indian businessmen had put up stalls in the Bazaar. The Bazaar work was done by Narinder Dhir and mahesh Swali.

Gope Shewa who was the Chairman of the program committee was assisted by Ashok Sharma, Khub Samtani, Sudesh Kalia, Mr. Mishra, Arvind Thakore, Mr. Ravi Mathur, Raj Kapahi, Tejinder Gill and others.

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